

VOICE OF THE BROADMEAD NEWS

No. 1

BROADMEAD

October 26, 1979

NEWSPAPER LOOKING FOR A STAFF

Yes, you are right. What you are reading is a first attempt of Broadmead's Residents to have a Residents-oriented, edited and produced "newsletter". It has the blessings of the Program Committee and will continue until there is a full-fledged Residents Association. Or, if we are good enough, it may continue down the years.

Jim Fleming has consented to coordinate getting out the first issue or issues, in the hope that a staff can be organized out of the 15 Residents whose profiles show that they have some experiences or training, or interest in writing, English or journalism.

Jim (Dr. G. James Fleming) has spent his last 20 working years as professor of political science at Morgan State University, but his first degree was in journalism (Wisconsin) and he spent nearly half of his life as newspaper reporter or editor. Even now, he writes a weekly column for the Baltimore Afro-American and an occasional column for the Daily News of the Virgin Islands. From 1945-50, he was on the national staff of the American Friends Service Committee.

How about you, if you are interested in helping to create a Residents' newspaper, please let Jim know through the mails--B-1 or via 666-2707. After some reaction, we'll hold a meeting and decide where we go from here.

By the way, we do not need only writers, we hope someone will come to light willing to type, or who can make simple illustrative sketches, or who is interested in layout, etc.

In addition to Jim, this issue has been made possible by Kenneth Walker, Mildred Beck, and Claire Walker.

WHEN THE SUN SHINES, BROADMEAD SMILES

Welcome to Residents in place, Residents-in-waiting, and Residents-in-temporary shelter!

We'll all be together one day, joining in this unique and eminently appropriate life style which we have chosen as our answer to aging.

Just think: a year from now things like tangled telephones, missing meals, late letters, knobless kitchens, haphazard heat (and in some cases hot water), unpaved parking and uncovered walks--if any--will all be in the past. No more waiting. Even now we can sense a prospect of Dining Room Dinners, Wonderful Warmth, Healed Heaters...Not much point in speculating on the course of coming weather, but an A Cluster Resident was recently heard to remark that she is beginning to feel a fondness for "Mud Mountain".

Meanwhile our adventures are starting in an atmosphere of friendly warmth and mutual concern that suggest stories of pioneer days. There is such a pervasive helpfulness around us that it hardly seems necessary to worry about finding a special Broadmead pal, as Martin Trueblood has already urged us all to do, especially those who live alone. However, although the buddy system is voluntary, we will all be well advised, and probably sooner or later thankful, to work out a checking procedure with a neighbor and observe it regularly. Couples need it, too, for periods of temporary separation.

Has everyone ridden in the Broadmead bus or attended a Sunday tea since they are being held in the gleaming new Center? Most folks after moving in unpack and seem able to settle in fairly promptly. Some have actually started landscaping their six-feet-beyond-the-front-edge-of

the-patio plot. Volunteering Trustees are being joined daily by increasing numbers of us to help sort out multitudinous tasks at the Center. Determined committees of Residents are eager to see us move toward becoming a real Residents' Community.

Some fine day the physical frustrations at Broadmead will be over and we will have to supply our own. At present it seems like a promising alternative!

-Claire Walker

EACH ONE HELP ONE!...

It's satisfying to come upon a chance every day to help someone do something. It's what we're all about, we Broadmeaders.

CONSTRUCTION AND MOVING--
TWO BIG TRASH PRODUCERS!

Do you need help with yours? Let the office know. Write it, date it, identify it, and hand it to a staff member to route to the right person.

Whatever the problem, we have been advised to follow this procedure for best results for the Community as a whole. We are asked not to waylay someone and make an oral request.

DO YOU BELIEVE IN COMMUNITY?
WHAT IS YOUR DEFINITION?

"What is a community?" That is the assignment that "The Voice" gave me. To find an answer. Feeling my own inadequacy, I turned to my friend and teacher, James Weldon Johnson, who said: "Use what is at hand. And remember, chance favors the prepared mind."

Judge Learned Hand also had a stimulating definition of community, which I paraphrase here:

"A 'community' is already in the process of formation when each person begins to view his/her neighbor as a possible friend; where non-conformity with the predominant creed--political as well as religious--is a mark of diversity and commands respect; where myth or unfounded rumor is quickly dissolved; where faith in the ultimate supremacy of reason is unshakable, and where there is a deep commitment to the active affirmative of human connectedness."

A sense of community is the direction of Broadmead. What is your definition of 'community'? What is your feeling about "community"?

-Mildred Beck

NEWS FROM THE CLUSTERS

The "Voice of the Residents" hopes that someone in the different clusters will be moved to collect news items for the paper. At this writing, there are Residents installed in 10 different clusters. More than enough to energize news.

If no one volunteers, why don't you, dear reader, decide to submit such news items yourself.

How about new plantings, how about some surplus furniture or appliances available by barter, gift or sale? How about relatives visiting from faraway places?

By the way, if you have interesting news within your own family, send it in yourself. Sign your name and residence, even if such is not to be published. What about interesting recipes for Thanksgiving and Christmas? Or, you may be going away for Christmas?

And, by the way, do you write poetry or essays?

-G. J. Fleming

NEWLYWEDS AT BROADMEAD

Believe it or not, there is at least one set of newlyweds residing in Broadmead. They were married last July--and they are as "full of life" as all newlyweds.

By the way, when "the Mister" of this couple applied for admission to Broadmead, he was a single businessman. But, in the intervening months (perhaps years), things happened, culminating in marriage.

If you want to have the full heart-warming story, the couple will have to tell you themselves. (You know we can't invade their privacy.)

There are lots of other interesting people in Broadmead. In fact, we are probably all interesting, in one way or the other, or we wouldn't be courageous enough to start to conquer new frontiers and start a new lifestyle.

For instance, there is a wife who, a few years ago, crossed the Sahara Desert in a jeep--when she was no longer 39 or 59.

There are squads of social workers each a depository of a thousand stories.

There are hobbyists without number. There are buyers from leading department stores, two of whom will eventually run our Country Store. There are two experts on art and museums. There are artists in every medium, some of whom have won laudable criticism from the metropolitan press.

There is an expert on the Russian language who has travelled extensively in the Soviet Union. There are many writers. There are some experts in public affairs, education, and religion.

These are all the makings of news for "Voice of the Broadmead Residents".

-G. J. Fleming

THE OTHER SIDE OF "BAD BREAKS"

If you sometimes get sorrowful over the "bad breaks" you or Broadmead have

had--worst winter last February, hurricane David and Frederick, premature snow in October, and the greatest rainfall in years--cheer up. There is another side.

The heroes and heroines who have had to swim through mud and those who have had to "make do" with lodgings in Holly House and several motels, will have sterling advantage over all other Residents.

Those who come in after all roads are paved, the heat working one hundred per cent efficiently, all apartments ready, and the dining room operating, will not have the same sense of "conquering new frontiers". They will not be able to refer to "things as they used to be compared to today".

The early arrivals can stick their chests out in a way similar to those who survived the blizzard of 1884 (is it?), the Baltimore fire of 1904, and the San Francisco earthquake of 1906. We were there in all the mud and the other deficiencies that try men's souls and their bodies, too. We can tell our grandchild of how we conquered and settled Broadmead.

Men and women in their nineties and eighties, some with canes, some with walkers just took things in stride. The sprightly seventies and sixties had good testing-outs.

In law, the kinds of drawbacks Broadmead has had to face--the rain, the mud, the snow--are accepted as "acts of God".

-G. J. Fleming

FROM THE DIRECTOR

Margaret Trueblood and I have looked forward to the opening of Broadmead with a great deal of personal emotion. We have given three years of our lives to the development of Broadmead. Living on the site has been a tremendous advantage to me personally and to Broadmead, since many things have been changed that would not have worked out as well if someone had not been here. On the other hand, the personal involvement has been exhausting as we

suffered through each rainstorm and each new problem.

Broadmead is fortunate to have a Board of Trustees that is both able and strong. A strong active Board is the best guarantee for long term success of a project like Broadmead and I personally am most grateful for the wide range of abilities represented on our Board and for their personal help in many areas when decisions and judgments are required.

ANNUAL BOARD MEETING

The Board of Trustees of Broadmead held its Fourth Annual Meeting in Broadmead Center on Sunday, September 16, 1979. Special recognition was given at this meeting to the five Trustees leaving the Board, as well as the three who finished their terms a year ago. Theodore Baker, Isabella Jinnette, and Claire Walker have resigned in order to become residents of Broadmead. Gail Gann and her family have moved to Rhode Island and Eric Thompson has resigned to be a member of the Staff. Each of these Board members contributed a great deal to Broadmead's development and they will be missed. It should be noted that Gail Gann had hoped to be a member of the Staff and while the others will continue their involvement with Broadmead, hers has ended. We feel this has been a loss to us and to her. At the Annual Meeting the five new members of the Board began their terms. Jen Hobbins, Joseph Kovner and Harold Schutz are the new members appointed by Stony Run Friends Meeting and Edmund Beacham and Rose Rumford are Board appointees. A very lovely recognition pin was presented to the retiring Board members and to past Board members at this occasion.

Following the meeting our Food Service Staff served their first Broadmead meal to the Board, Staff members, and their guests in Holly House.

COMPLETION SCHEDULE

As you all know, our final completion schedule was altered in mid-September due to delays caused by the unprecedented rain pattern of this past summer. The new

schedule calls for initial occupancy of the last clusters (E and G) by November 20. Broadmead Center is nearing completion and should be finished by Thanksgiving. Landscaping will continue as long as the weather permits but will undoubtedly need to be completed in the spring.

OCCUPANCY DATE

Since all units will be completed by December 1st, the Board of Trustees has set January 1st as the Occupancy Date for all units not occupied by then. Residents who have not moved by then will start paying the Away Rate on January 1.

WINDOW GARDENS

One of the talking pieces at Broadmead is the window gardens here and there, looking out from kitchens. Some are very specialized, with geraniums or African Violets. Some are varied, with miniature flowers and plants and figurines.

The plantings around the patios are also becoming increasingly appealing. So is the general landscaping.

In future issues of the Voice of the Residents, we will certainly carry features in these areas. By summer, the Residents may also be talking about a garden show.

THE VOICE OF THE RESIDENTS

The Community Newspaper
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by a panel authorized by the interim
Program Committee.

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